

University of Groningen

Characterization of a Drosophila model for Chorea-Acanthocytosis

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Stellingen

1. Vps13 mutant flies provide a valuable model to study the possible underlying molecular mechanisms of Chorea-Acanthocytosis.
2. Vps13 is required to maintain proper protein homeostasis in the central nervous system of *Drosophila melanogaster*. This suggests that defects in protein homeostasis may occur in Chorea-Acanthocytosis.
3. *Drosophila Vps13* mutants have altered synaptic plasticity during larval development.
4. A careful balance between autophagosome formation and degradation is important during the development of an organism.
5. "If the data in an experiment are equivocal, or the effect size is small, it is much better to come up with an extra, mechanistically different, experiment to test the hypothesis, than to repeat the same experiment until P is less than 0.05." David Vaux, Nature, 2012.
6. "The exercise of singing is delightful to nature, and good to preserve the health of man." William Byrd, 1588.
7. Impeccable hand-eye coordination is required when studying the *Drosophila* brain.
8. With the current technological possibilities the setup of a PhD thesis should be changed to save printing costs and paper.
9. One of the most important parts of presenting is to always keep the background knowledge and interest of the audience in mind.